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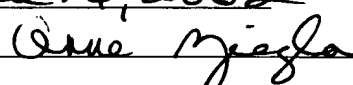
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December 4, 2002

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Anne Ziegler
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Re: Inventors: Timothy W. King and Charles W. Patrick, Jr.
MDA No.: MDA00-004
Patent Application Entitled: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR
BIODEGRADABLE MICROSPHERES AS CARRIERS OF BIOACTIVE
SUBSTANCES
Serial No.: 09/671,540
Filed: September 27, 2000
Our File No.: 121117-1000

Dear Sir:

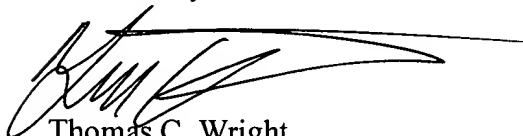
Enclosed for filing with the Patent and Trademark Office are the following documents:

1. Response to Office Action; and
2. Postcard.

Please file the above-referenced document and return the date-stamped postcard to our office at the above address. It is believed that no additional fees are due. If this is incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 07-0153.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments concerning any of the above, please call the undersigned at your convenience. Otherwise, please accept the enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP



Thomas C. Wright
Registration No. 47,189
TCW/MAV/eaz
Enclosures



Attorney Docket No.: P21117-1000

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In Re the Application of: Timothy W. King and Charles W. Patrick

Application Serial No.: 09/671,540

Group Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: Amy E. Pulliam

Date Filed: September 27, 2000

Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR BIODEGRADABLE
MICROSPHERES AS CARRIERS OF BIOACTIVE
SUBSTANCES

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Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

The present paper is submitted timely as a complete Response to the official Office Action, mailed October 18, 2002, and due for reply on or before January 18, 2002. Applicants respectfully request that the remarks submitted herewith be considered. In view of the remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the claims pending in this Application are respectfully requested. It is believed that no fee is due for this reply. If a fee is due, however, please charge this fee to our Deposit Account No. 07-0153.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 23-36 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-7, 13-14, 16-18 and 23-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,643,605 to Cleland et al. Claims 1, 8-11, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being